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Senator Catherine Osten  
Senator Paul Formica  
Representative Toni Walker

I am a published author and illustrator for children and young adults. My work has received national awards and international attention for addressing issues of social justice. My participation in the Educational Center for the Arts/ACES Writing and Visual Arts programs helped to strengthen, shape and encourage my future as an artist and as a human being. I have no doubt that the physical space provided and the community of ECA helped me to SURVIVE adolescence in New Haven in the late 1980's. Thank you for your attention to our testimony.

Sincerely,  
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